Diversion of 5.3897 ha. of forest land in favour of Directorate of Transport, HP for the construction of Heera Nagar Bus stand & Workshop of H.R.T.C. within the jurisdiction of Shimla Forest Division Distt. Shimla, H.P.

Location : 31°06.941' N, 77°06.018'E

Date : 7th February 2017

Time : 11am

Accompanying Officers : Sh. Amit Sharma, DFO Shimla, RO Totu and other

forest staff, Sh. Negi, RM HRTC

The site is covered with Chil and Deodar Trees mainly, interspersed with some Kail tress aged about 30 years. There are also 19 Oak trees and 31 saplings. The entire crop seems to be of plantation origin and covers most of the forest D-213 Jablog. Being next to the road, it is susceptible to forest fire, which is evident from the blackened tree stems. Its proximity to the road is also the reason for its imminent doom. The ridge lie along the N-S axis and the slope on either side is steep.

The forest leads a precarious existence. However, the dense ban-oak patch which is largely left out of the proposed diversion area is significant from the point of view of ecosystem services being rendered. No dumping is to be tolerated on this prime forest.

The HRTC officials have apparently no alternative to the proposed site's diversion.

A.P. Nagar, IFS

Chief Conservator of Forests,

Shima Forest Circle Forests, Chief Conservator of Forests, Shimla Forest Circle, Shimla